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Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township, Indianapolis, Ind.

Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township: Increase Graduation Rates by 25% in Four Years with Daily Advisory Period and Naviance

The Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township is located in Marion County. The district serves 16,000 students, 64% of which are minority students. 70% of students are on free and reduced lunch.

In an effort to increase graduation rates, the district implemented Naviance in Fall 2014 across five campuses and three alternative campuses, encompassing around 7,000 high school students. In conjunction with the implementation of Naviance, the district launched the IMPACT program, which serves as a daily advisory period for students to focus on college, career and life readiness. In the four years since implementing both programs, the district has seen a 25% increase in graduation rates.

Increasing Access to College and Career Readiness Through Innovative, Consistent Curricula

Indiana, along with many other states, requires secondary schools to help students establish and maintain graduation plans. MSD Wayne sought to establish an easy-to-navigate system to to provide students with the skills, competencies and academic knowledge required to be successful after high school. The result is the IMPACT program - a daily advisory period designed to provide context around the skills students need to be successful in life. IMPACT teachers link relevant lessons and activities in Naviance to those skills and help students understand and apply the results of their Naviance activities to determine a course plan that matches their interests and goals.

"Naviance is the thread that allows approximately 7,000 secondary scholars to begin developing the content knowledge, critical thinking skills and executive processing skills needed to be college and career ready."

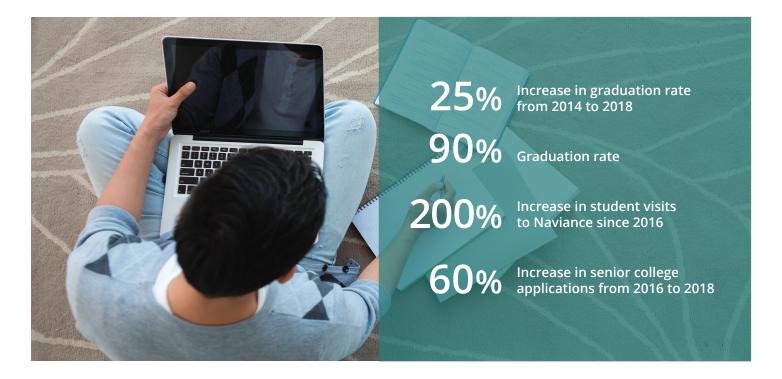
- Wendy Skibinski,

Director of Career and College Readiness at MSD of Wayne Township



of students qualify for free and reduced lunch

450:1Student to counselor ratio



"Through our innovative IMPACT curriculum, teachers are able to use the tools in Naviance to present lessons that help students develop skills to fully engage in their aspirations," said Wendy Skibinski, Director of Career and College Readiness at MSD of Wayne Township.

The IMPACT program integrates Naviance lessons alongside core curriculum so students can develop core competencies in context, including self-knowledge, transition skills, goal-setting, career and college exploration.

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- Wendy Skibinski,

Director of Career and College Readiness at MSD of Wayne Township

Engaging Families in College & Career Readiness Planning

MSD Wayne currently exceeds the national average student to counselor ratio, with 450 students per counselor. In addition, MSD Wayne serves many underrepresented students. With large populations of first-generation high school graduates, first-generation college-going students, and students of low-socioeconomic households, the district felt it especially important to use Naviance to prepare students for life after high school.

The IMPACT program provides all MSD Wayne students with access to wifi, comprehensive resources in Naviance, and the time to complete assessments. The program also creates a support network for students by engaging family members with their student's IMPACT teacher and counselors.

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Since implementing Naviance and the IMPACT program, the number of students who create a four-year course plan has skyrocketed. While only 12 students had a course plan in the 2015-16 school year, over 2,200 students had an established plan in the 2017-18 school year. Within the same timeframe, the district's four-year graduation rate has increased from 65% to 90%.



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